

over the course of 22 hours, 613 civilian lives were lost. Innocent children, women and elderly men were brutally murdered.

Since this tragedy took place in the early 1990's, Azerbaijan has worked to heal and become a successful country, with a booming economy. As a result, the economy of Azerbaijan is the fastest growing among the CIS states. In the turbulent geopolitical region, Azerbaijan is a reliable partner of the United States. Moreover, Azerbaijan is a close ally and trade partner with another strong American ally—Israel—in the region.

Mr. Speaker, we must stand close by our allies. That is why I urge my colleagues to recognize the human tragedy that occurred in Azerbaijan 23 years ago. Please, join me and all of our Azerbaijani friends in commemorating the lives lost during the Khojaly massacre.

**CONGRATULATIONS LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE SAN BERNARDINO AREA FOR ITS 60TH ANNIVERSARY**

**HON. PAUL COOK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 25, 2015*

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the League of Women Voters of the San Bernardino Area celebrating its 60th year anniversary.

Irmagard Blum, Margaret Chandler, Sibyl Disch, Joan Fallert, Jane Hall, Sally Hartley, Jerry Keller, Jane Koterm, Ruth Kekkonen, Gerry Pico, Jackie Russler, and Nancy Smith founded the League of Women Voters of San Bernardino on March 17, 1955. The League of Women Voters of San Bernardino objective is to promote political participation amongst citizens, especially women, without partisan bias. The League of Women voters of San Bernardino continue their commitment to support political action and advocacy. For its past 60 years, this organization has committed over six decades to support local services for voters, from registration, serving as a witness, and partake in other acts to ensure citizen participation in and oversight of the election process.

The League of Women Voters in San Bernardino Area educates citizens on issues and candidates, supports voter registration, and encourages citizens to create and implement positive policy in Congress.

**RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF ANDREW MARSHALL**

**HON. J. RANDY FORBES**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 25, 2015*

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of Andrew Marshall, the recently retired Director of the Pentagon's Office of Net Assessment, and the more than 41 years of distinguished and dedicated service that he has rendered to his office and his country. Always one to avoid the limelight and shun the recognition he deserves, Mr. Marshall has quietly but ably served twelve different Secretaries of

Defense and been appointed and reappointed to his long-held position by no fewer than eight U.S. Presidents—Republican and Democrat alike. His accomplishments as a practitioner and proponent of net assessment and truly strategic thinking have shaped U.S. policy for decades and changed the way that generations of strategists and policymakers thought—and will continue to think—about defense. He has my thanks and those of a grateful nation.

**PATRICK SULLIVAN TRIBUTE**

**HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 25, 2015*

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Patrick Sullivan, Rio Grande County's Road and Bridge Supervisor and the 2014 recipient of the Colorado Association of Road Supervisors and Engineers Supervisor of the Year Award.

In addition to his 35 years with Rio Grande County, the glowing letters of recommendation he received from his community speak to Mr. Sullivan's dedication. In addition to his duties as Road and Bridge Supervisor, he also serves as assistant fire chief for the Monte Vista Fire Department. He received recommendations from the Colorado State Patrol and the SLV Hazardous Substance Board, who both emphasized his unflagging devotion to Rio Grande County.

According to his coworkers, Mr. Sullivan goes above and beyond, and performs his duties with a commitment to excellence and dedication to his team. Their recommendations and the nomination speak to the mutual commitment he and his team has to public safety and their community. For Mr. Sullivan, his duties are more than a job; they are a way to serve and strengthen his community.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Patrick Sullivan. He is not only a hard working civil servant but a dedicated husband and father. His contributions have and will continue to make Rio Grande County a great place to live for those who call it home.

**PERSONAL EXPLANATION**

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 25, 2015*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for roll call votes 84–85 due to a family emergency. Had I been present, I would have voted yes on #84 and yes on #85.

**IN RECOGNITION OF KYLEE MCCUMBER**

**HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 25, 2015*

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work of the founder of Kylee's Kare Kits for Kidz, Inc., Kylee McCumber. Cur-

rently a 7th grader at Sky View Middle School in Leominster, Massachusetts, Kylee is an exceptional young activist who began this non-profit organization at the age of 10 to help food insecure children in her school.

In 2012, Kylee recognized that there were children going hungry on the weekends because they didn't have enough food to eat. Kylee started out with a goal to help 10 children per week by providing them with a "kare kit" of non-perishable food items to take home over the weekend. Today, Kylee, along with the help of her family and fellow classmates have been providing "kare kits" of non-perishable food items to over 200 students every Friday.

Last fall, as part of the Unilever Project Sunlight program, Kylee traveled to Mumbai, India to film a commercial to raise awareness about child hunger. In the commercial Kylee states, "The enemy is hunger—not the hungry." When asked why she does what she does, she simply states "It is better to give than receive and I receive so much more than what I give. It is so important to be grateful for all we have and pay it forward when we can." The work that Kylee is doing to end hunger is truly inspirational. She is a leader and role model. I am proud to represent Kylee, and I thank Kylee for her extraordinary service to the City of Leominster. I know that all of my colleagues in the House will join me in paying tribute to this remarkable young woman.

**PERSONAL EXPLANATION**

**HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 25, 2015*

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, on February 24, 2015 I was unable to be present and missed the following votes:

On Roll Call vote 84, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, As Amended, H.R. 212, the Drinking Water Protection Act, I would have voted Yes.

On Roll Call Vote 85, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and pass H.R. 734, the FCC Consolidated Reporting Act of 2015, I would have voted Yes.

**IN RECOGNITION OF MRS. TERRY WAGONER ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT**

**HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN**

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 25, 2015*

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mrs. Terry Wagoner of Royal Oak, Michigan, on her retirement from William Beaumont Hospital after 44 years of dedicated service as a Registered Nurse.

Mrs. Wagoner began her nursing career at Beaumont after graduating from Grace Nursing School in Detroit, Michigan, in 1970. Her time at Beaumont spanned the hospital's growth from a community hospital to one of the nation's leading hospitals.

Predominantly working with medical and geriatric patients throughout her career, Mrs. Wagoner's kindness and compassion have

made her one of Beaumont's top nurses and a mentor to the generations that have followed in her footsteps. Mrs. Wagoner's dedication to the care and well-being of her patients often included taking care of the emotional needs of their family members. Holidays with her own family often included a family member of a patient who had nowhere to go.

Mrs. Wagoner has given tirelessly to William Beaumont Hospital, to her patients, to her colleagues and to her family. I am proud to congratulate her on this accomplishment, and wish her well in a retirement that is so richly deserved.

#### THE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF BROADCASTERS' CONTRIBUTIONS TO THEIR LOCAL COMMUNITIES

**HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 25, 2015*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to formally recognize the contribution of broadcasters across the country and from my home state of Georgia. Every community is impacted by broadcasters, the individuals who have dedicated their lives to disseminating important information by radio and television. As north Georgia prepares for snow, ice and sleet today and tonight—broadcasters are my constituents' go-to source for the latest on road conditions, power outages and school closings. We turn to broadcasters first—whether we are in our cars listening to the radio, or watching the news on television at home.

There are over 500 local radio and television stations in Georgia. In 2014 alone, local radio and television stations in Georgia produced over 50,000 hours of original over-the-air news programming, representing an increase from 2013. Broadcasters have created over 85,000 jobs in Georgia and the radio and television industry had an economic impact on Georgia of over \$39 billion in 2012.

#### COMMENDING THE CITY OF HATTIESBURG FOR DECLARING THE MONTH OF MARCH AS MARCH FOR MEALS MONTH

**HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 25, 2015*

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my sincerest appreciation and admiration to the City of Hattiesburg, the Honorable Mayor Johnny Dupree, and all who were involved in declaring the month of March as March for Meals Month in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. March for Meals commemorates the hard-work and selfless dedication of the MEALS ON WHEELS program, which brings hot meals to the homes of those in need.

I especially want to acknowledge the men and women who volunteer and work tirelessly to ensure that the MEALS ON WHEELS program at Christian Services, Inc. is a success. The program has proven to be a valuable resource to older adults and homebound individuals in the City of Hattiesburg and its sur-

rounding areas. In 2014, over 78,000 meals were delivered through MEALS ON WHEELS. Providing hot meals everyday not only meets the physical needs of the elderly and homebound but the smiles and kind words that MEALS ON WHEELS volunteers bring with each meal offer joy and hope with each delivery.

With the increasing need for programs to feed the homebound and seniors in our area, Christian Services has partnered with the City of Hattiesburg and the national MEALS ON WHEELS "No Senior Goes Hungry" campaign to raise awareness to the program and its contribution to the community. On behalf of the Fourth Congressional District of Mississippi and the United States House of Representatives, I wish MEALS ON WHEELS continued success in their valiant effort to help their fellow man and commend the City of Hattiesburg for declaring March to be March for Meals Month.

#### AUTISM SOCIETY OF AMERICA'S 50TH YEAR CELEBRATION

**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 25, 2015*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the Autism Society of America's 50th Year Celebration and commemorate the organization on five decades of extraordinary service and effective advocacy on behalf of the autism community.

In 1964, concerned parents of children with autism—including Ruth Sullivan, Dr. Bernie Rimand and Dan Torisky—joined together to form what is now called the Autism Society of America. Continuing to implement the vision of its founders, the Society today is a grassroots organization that ensures parents have quality options and the supports necessary for their child to live and prosper in our communities.

The Autism Society of America and its 104 local and state affiliates work towards one goal: to help each individual with autism maximize his or her quality of life.

Having worked with the Society's remarkable president Scott Badesch—a tenacious and wise leader—I can attest to the dedication and commitment of the organization's leadership, and its staff and volunteers. Each person who comes to the Autism Society gains the knowledge that accompanies 50 years of experience to help ensure a life of dignity, respect and opportunity.

The organization has played a critical role in the enactment of many landmark pieces of legislation for individuals with disabilities—including the three laws I have written that provide federal resources for research, services and supports for children and adults with autism.

Today, the Society's mission and work has never been more important or more timely. We as a nation are in the midst of a huge yet largely invisible crisis that begs serious focus and durable remedies.

I am referring to the aging out crisis.

Every year, 50,000 young people on the autism spectrum matriculate into adulthood and are in the process of losing essential services. Individuals with autism in the aging out generation and their parents find themselves en-

tering into a system unprepared to meet their needs, and one that disincentivizes the opportunity and independence the Society has worked to achieve.

With the strong support and hard work of the Society, last Congress, we enacted my Autism CARES Act which calls for an agency report that lays the foundation for better addressing the aging out crisis.

The Society provided extremely valuable input into my legislation, now P.L. 113-157, which authorizes \$1.3 billion over five years to continue the critical pipeline of federal research dollars, and was the first piece of enacted legislation to address aging out. The Autism CARES Act tasked multiple Federal agencies to provide a comprehensive study on the needs of autistic young adults and transitioning youth and how they can better shape policies and programs to meet these needs.

This important law—like so many critical policy changes over the past 50 years—would not have been possible without the Autism Society of America.

I am so proud of and deeply grateful for the work of all of the volunteers and staff of the Autism Society of America and their affiliates. Thank you for your hard work and daily commitment to improving the lives of individuals with autism.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. GREGG HARPER**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 25, 2015*

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 85 on H.R. 734, I am not recorded due to inclement weather resulting in a travel delay. Had I been present, I would have voted Aye.

#### WELCOMING ONA BROWN TO "MOVING FORWARD AND SETTING THE WORLD"

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 25, 2015*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome Ms. Ona Brown to the annual Black History Month event "Moving Forward and Setting the World," organized by the Canisius College Academic Talent Search Program. The Moving Forward and Setting the World event will feature the African-German Art Exhibition from Homestory, Germany to honor Black History Month.

The Canisius College Academic Talent Search Program, the host of this event, has shaped a positive impact on many Western New York communities. The program is among eight federally funded TRIO programs established under Title IV of the Higher Education act of 1965. The Academic Talent Search Program provides educational, social and career support services for individuals with disadvantaged backgrounds in local schools and community service organizations.

Ms. Ona Brown, whom I welcome to this event, has recently been named one of the top five speakers in the world by Toastmasters